

admitted the house. But they also knew it had some shortcomings.

The foundation on the south side had settled. Dave Zimmerman says some of the windows would be closed on one end and have a half-inch air gap at the other. The foundation required careful jacking to bring it nearly level.

But while that leveled the foundation, it created other problems. Some of the interior walls are stucco and the jacking created cracks. Sharon Zimmerman says the sound was not for the faint of heart.

Termites had damaged the west side of the house. Some of the hardwood floors also had been damaged although that wasn't obvious until the old carpet came up. The couple was able to scavenge enough wood from other parts of the house to repair floors on the first story.

The Zimmermans added air conditioning to the second floor and part of the third floor. Dave Zimmerman ran the ductwork himself.

In the kitchen, the Zimmermans discovered the old back stairway to the maid's quarters. The stairway had been covered by cabinets on the lower floor and by a closet floor at the top. They replaced the stairway and opened up the butler's pantry, adding a built-in dishwasher to save space.

Another project was putting new windows in the sunroom. Because the room covers one of the basement skylights, the Zimmermans think it was originally a porch.

Both readily admit the house has required a lot of work. They started remodeling within an hour of buying it. But they say the house's features more than make up for the labor.



H-W Photos/Michael Kipley

The exterior of the Samuel and Lida Scott House, 405 S. 24th St., is pictured above. Below, left, the music room is an alcove formed by the round turret; center, a fireplace with a decorative inset; and right, a sitting parlor and the staircase.

A dramatic turret encloses a music room on the first floor and part of the master bedroom on the second floor. The south side houses a box bay on the first floor. A stone wall encircles most of the house.

Sharon Zimmerman likes the stucco interior walls and the working fireplace. She also relishes the front staircase; the spindles are made from five different types of wood.

Outside, the couple has laid brick sidewalks and planted a garden. And the Zimmermans had a wrought-iron fence built based on a pattern reminiscent of the late 19th century.

The original owners of the house were Samuel and Lida Scott. Samuel Scott was a photographer who owned businesses with Oliver P. Scott at 235 N. Fifth and 429 Hampshire.

This is another in a series on home of historical or architectural significance as identified by Quincy Preserves.

AT A GLANCE

Original name: Samuel and Lida Scott House

Date of construction: 1887

Style: Queen Anne/shingle

Outstanding features:

- Cut limestone foundation and porch walls.
- Complex gable roof and dormers with moderate pitch.
- Windows that are mostly one-over-one double hung.
- Corner turret with a conical roof.
- Front porch dominated by heavy bracketing and spindle work.
- Wrap-around porch that runs north across the west to the south where it meets the turret.
- Band of shingles to emphasize the porch roof line.
- Wood shingles under west gable around diamond-shaped window.
- Circular window on the north facade with shingles under the gable and a box bay on the first floor.
- Large dormer on the east with cross-gable and small circular window under the highest gable.

